

Appl. No.: 09/592,309

PATENT
Docket No. EPI-024 US
7008092001REMARKS

The Assignee presents the below remarks and respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in light of the presented remarks.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,108,687 (Craig) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,444 (Fin). The Assignee respectfully traverses the rejection.

Craig does not teach or suggest the invention as claimed. Specifically, Craig fails to teach or suggest:

computer instructions for receiving additional information entered in a shared web browser white board from at least one of the other computers over the network, wherein said other computers and said leader computer each generally simultaneously display the additional information, and wherein the additional information is entered by a user of a computer from the plurality of other computers to be associated with the already displayed information; and computer instructions for receiving text-based conferencing information from at least one of the other computers over the network, wherein said other computers and said leader computer each generally simultaneously display the additional information.

The Examiner acknowledges that Craig does not teach all the elements of the claims. See Office Action at p. 3. The Examiner states, however, that Fin teaches the shortcomings of Craig. Fin, however, does not teach at least the above elements of the claims.

Fin teaches an internet web page sharing system wherein users may point or mark areas of the displayed web document. Column 19, lines 15-53. Fin fails to teach a white board and text-based conferencing information as specified in all the claims. The disclosed annotation feature in Fin does not disclose or suggest both the white board and the text-based conferencing information.

Thus, the combination of Craig and Fin fails to teach or suggest all the elements of the claims. The Assignee respectfully requests allowance of the present application.

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CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested. The Examiner may call the Assignee's attorney at the number below to further advance prosecution of this case to issuance.

Assignee also respectfully requests that the Attorney Docket No. be corrected from [000399] to reflect the Bingham McCutchen Docket number: EPI-024 US (7008092001).

DATE: August 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


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